

MULTILINGUAL MEDIA

September 13, 2016

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CHINESE COMMUNITY MEDIA

September 12, 2016

SING TAO: SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

■ **The Ontario legislature resumes today (A7)**

The Liberal government hopes to reset its agenda when the Ontario legislature resumes Monday, but the opposition parties will be on the attack over electricity rates, the privatization of Hydro One and the record \$300-billion debt. "Now at the midway point of our mandate, our focus is on implementing our plan so we can continue to deliver on our top priority: jobs and growth," said government house leader Yasir Naqvi. "We want to provide greater support in the pocketbook," Finance Minister Charles Sousa said. "What is important here is that we find ways to help everyday Ontarians save a little bit more money. We're taking many steps to do just that." The finance minister insisted the government can afford new measures because it is on track to eliminate annual deficits and balance the books in next year's budget. Progressive Conservative Leader Patrick Brown blames high electricity prices on government schemes paying too much for green energy generated by wind turbines and solar power.

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■ **The Ontario legislature resumes today with the throne speech outlining government priorities (A3)**

The Liberal government hopes to reset its agenda when the Ontario legislature resumes Monday, but the opposition parties will be on the attack over electricity rates, the privatization of Hydro One and the record \$300-billion debt. Premier Kathleen Wynne surprised the Progressive Conservatives and New Democrats last Thursday when she suddenly prorogued the legislature and said it would open Monday as scheduled, but with the added pomp and ceremony of a throne speech. "Now at the midway point of our mandate, our focus is on implementing our plan so we can continue to deliver on our top priority: jobs and growth," said government house leader Yasir Naqvi. "The speech from the throne is a normal tradition for a government and will allow us to re-focus our priorities and re-set the legislative agenda." Naqvi repeatedly said the Liberals would use Monday's speech to show how they will "build Ontario up," which was the title of the last throne speech in 2014.

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SING TAO: SEPTEMBER 13, 2016

- **The Ontario government will remove the 8 per cent provincial portion of the HST from hydro bills to provide relief for ratepayers (A2)**

Ontario home owners, farmers and small businesses will get some relief from soaring electricity prices starting in January when the provincial portion of the harmonized sales tax is removed from hydro bills. The Liberal government announced the plan in the throne speech; opening the fall session of the legislature, saying Ontario's eight-per-cent slice of the HST would be taken off electricity bills. Other initiatives in the throne speech include a commitment to create an additional 100,000 licensed child care spaces for kids aged four and under over five years, starting in 2017. The government's plan was outlined in the Speech from the Throne delivered yesterday by the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Ontario's Lieutenant Governor. Premier Kathleen Wynne said: "Ontario's economy is still in transition, but our recovery is firmly on track. While many are benefiting from the growth we've achieved, others have yet to share in Ontario's resurgence. Our government understands the challenges people face and shares their concerns. With our balanced and proven plan to build Ontario up, we begin this new legislative session focused on economic growth that creates good jobs and committed to delivering real benefits and more inclusive growth that will help more people in their everyday lives."
- **The main points of yesterday's throne speech (A2)**

The government's plan will help people in their everyday lives by:

Delivering electricity cost relief through legislation to rebate an amount equal to the provincial portion of the HST on electricity bills, a saving of about \$130 annually for the typical Ontario household.

Starting in 2017, creating an additional 100,000 licensed child care spaces for 0- to 4-year-olds within the next five years.

Putting a new emphasis on math skills, expanding experiential learning, implementing free tuition for thousands of low- and middle-income students.
- **A gala was held to welcome a delegation from China (A14)**

A few days ago, a gala was held to welcome a delegation from China. Nearly 700 people attended the gala, including International Trade Minister Michael Chan.

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- **In the Speech from the Throne; the Ontario Liberal government promises to remove the Ontario portion of the HST from hydro bills (A4)**

As part of its balanced plan to build Ontario up and help people in their everyday lives, the Ontario government intends to introduce legislation that, if passed, would rebate an amount equal to the provincial portion of the HST on residential, farm and small business electricity bills as of January 1, 2017. The government also announced that it will create

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an additional 100,000 licensed infant to preschool child care spaces within the next five years, starting in 2017. The government's plan was outlined in the Speech from the Throne delivered yesterday by the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Ontario's Lieutenant Governor. "I think it's important to recognize that we're doing something for our remote, rural and northern (electricity) customers as well," said Energy Minister Glenn Thibeault.

■ **Critics say the Ontario Liberal government's plan to rebate the provincial portion of the HST on electricity bills; is not a long-term solution (A4)**

The Ontario government intends to introduce legislation that would rebate an amount equal to the provincial portion of the HST on electricity bills. Christine Van Geyn, Ontario director of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, said she is disappointed with the promise of rebates because she said rebates do not stop electricity rates from climbing. "The government announced a plan to remove provincial HST from hydro bills. But with hydro rates; rising an average eight per cent per year, what is their long-term solution? They can't cut the HST again next year," she said. Ontario NDP Leader Andrea Horwath said the Liberal government should permanently remove the HST from hydro bills.

A gala was held to welcome a delegation from China (A10)

On September 10th, a gala was held to welcome a delegation from China. Nearly 700 people attended the gala, including International Trade Minister Michael Chan.

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■ **The Speech from the Throne outlines plans to lower electricity bills (4)**

As part of its balanced plan to build Ontario up and help people in their everyday lives, the Ontario government intends to introduce legislation that, if passed, would rebate an amount equal to the provincial portion of the HST on residential, farm and small business electricity bills as of January 1, 2017. The government also announced that it will create an additional 100,000 licensed infant to preschool child care spaces within the next five years, starting in 2017. The government's plan was outlined in the Speech from the Throne delivered yesterday by the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Ontario's Lieutenant Governor. The plan will continue to create economic growth and good jobs -- the government's number-one priority. Premier Kathleen Wynne said: "Ontario's economy is still in transition, but our recovery is firmly on track. While many are benefiting from the growth we've achieved, others have yet to share in Ontario's resurgence. Our government understands the challenges people face and shares their concerns. With our balanced and proven plan to build Ontario up, we begin this new legislative session focused on economic growth that creates good jobs and committed to delivering real benefits and more inclusive growth that will help more people in their everyday lives."

■ **The opposition parties feel the plans outlined in the throne speech are not enough (4)**

Progressive Conservative Leader Patrick Brown said the government is bringing in the electricity rebate because it lost the recent by-election in Scarborough Rouge-River, an indication it can no longer ignore the effect of high hydro bills on Ontario residents. Brown said the throne speech is "too little, too late" and it shows that the government is out of touch with voters. He said the rebate will not stop hydro rates from climbing. Ontario NDP

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Leader Andrea Horwath said the Liberal government should permanently remove the HST from hydro bills and that the rebate should start immediately. Christine Van Geyn, Ontario director of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, said she is disappointed with the promise of rebates because she said rebates do not stop electricity rates from climbing. "They have done nothing to tackle the long-term problem. This is not a long-term solution," she said.

OMNI NEWS (CANTONESE EDITION): SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

- **Ontario home owners will get some relief from soaring electricity prices (1)**
Ontario home owners will get some relief from soaring electricity prices starting in January when the provincial portion of the harmonized sales tax is removed from hydro bills. The Liberal government announced the plan in the throne speech opening the fall session of the legislature, saying Ontario's eight-per-cent slice of the HST would be taken off electricity bills. This would result in savings of about \$130 annually for the typical Ontario household. The government's plan was outlined in the Speech from the Throne delivered today by the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Ontario's Lieutenant Governor. Other initiatives in the throne speech include a commitment to create an additional 100,000 licensed child care spaces for kids aged four and under over five years, starting in 2017.
- **The opposition parties say the throne speech is just a distraction tactic by the Ontario Liberal government (2)**
Both opposition parties say the plans outlined in the throne speech are just a distraction tactic by the Ontario Liberal government. Both the Progressive Conservatives and the NDP criticized the lack of a long-term energy plan by the Ontario Liberals, which they say has resulted in higher electricity prices.

CANADIAN PUNJABI POST: SEPT 13

- **Ontario's Liberal government to cut HST off hydro bills (1)**
To provide some relief to Ontario consumers, Liberal government has announced a cut to the provincial share of HST off hydro bills in the province. Eliminating the 8-per-cent portion of HST will save an average household \$130 a year. But opposition parties are not impressed with the announcement. PC leader Patrick Brown said the Liberals concocted the plan only after losing by-election in Scarborough-Rouge River.
- **Throne speech via Scarborough : Editorial (6)**
Commenting on Monday's throne speech, Canadian Punjabi Post writes that the throne speech and its main announcement to eliminate 8 per cent of HST on hydro bills was prompted by the Liberal defeat in Scarborough-Rouge River by-election. The newspaper writes that the relief to Ontario consumers by eliminating 8 per cent of HST is mere eyewash. If we look at the data of last few years, we see 8 per cent increase in hydro bills every year and the government is eliminating 8 per cent of HST just for one year. Production costs of electricity in Ontario are not higher than rest of the country. The sky-high rates of electricity in the province are actually the result of the bad management of the system. During the period of 2006 to 2015, Ontario consumers paid 60 per cent more than rest of the country on their hydro bills. The government seems less concerned about the problems of common people than the election result in Scarborough.

WEEKLY VOICE: SEPT 9

- **Mississauga supports provincial legislation on affordable housing (9)**
Mississauga's planning and development committee has approved staff's comments of provincial legislation that would give municipalities additional tools to create more affordable housing. The province introduced Bill 204-the Promoting Affordable Act in May 2016.
- **Concerned Doctors claim victory in Scarborough (12)**
Concerned Doctors of Ontario, a group of doctors that disagreed with their own leadership at OMA, are now taking credit for Liberal defeat in Scarborough-Rouge River. In a statement the organization say "Voters sent a clear message to Ontario Liberals: make healthcare a provincial priority."